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Birchwood
HONDA WEST

**FIND SPECIAL
LEASE OFFERS
ON PAGE 5!**

Winnipeg metro



**Bernie too bitter
to unite party**
metroNEWS



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'This is like stealing'

TRANSIT

Mayor, finance chair join outcry over Hydro's new land deal price



**Stephanie
Taylor**
Metro | Winnipeg

A proposed land deal that would see the City of Winnipeg pay more than four times the initial price for Manitoba Hydro property has been called "outright stealing."

Coun. Janice Lukes was responding to details of an agreement with the Crown corporation, which senior bureaucrats asked executive policy committee to sign off on Wednesday.

Under the proposed agreement, the city would pay Hydro \$20.4 million for land needed to start the next phase of the Southwest bus rapid transit extension.

A report says the city and Hydro previously agreed to a third-party appraisal price of \$4.6 million, but that changed after the utility pro-

vider disputed the methodology, and had the land value reappraised at \$34 million.

Through negotiations, that value was compromised at \$20.4 million.

"This is like stealing, in my opinion. It's outright stealing," Lukes said. "It's not right. It's just not right."

After a nearly 40-minute behind-closed-doors discussion, EPC "begrudgingly" endorsed the agreement, according to voting councillors.

Before the vote, finance committee chair Marty Morantz called into question the level of "good faith" done in making the deal.

"In my world, as I said, an agreement is an agreement. I think people should follow their agreements," he said afterwards. "That's just not the way business should be done."

Mayor Brian Bowman expressed no plans to communicate with Manitoba Hydro board members, saying since the utility provider is a Crown corporation, its lands cannot be expropriated, leaving the city in a difficult position for negotiations.

"It's a negotiated settlement. That's what we voted on today. Am I happy on an increased amount? No."



Mayor Brian Bowman and Coun. Marty Morantz talk after coming back to EPC from behind closed doors. BRAEDEN JONES/METRO



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COUNCIL

Motion tabled to make city LGBTQ-friendly



Stephanie Taylor
Metro | Winnipeg

Mayor Brian Bowman made good on his word to hold a review of the City of Winnipeg's policies to ensure they are inclusive to the LGBTQ community.

Bowman tabled a motion during a meeting of his inner circle Wednesday, tasking city staff to undertake a review of the current equity and diversity initiatives, in order to suggest potential changes that would make the city more LGBTQ-friendly.

Such changes could mean more sensitivity to questions around gender identity when

the city collects its data.

Wednesday's committee unanimously endorsed Bowman's request, which he initially announced several weeks ago during the raising of the Pride flag at city hall.

During the meeting, Bowman pointed out that despite ongoing efforts to be a more welcoming city, ignorance and intolerance still runs deep.



I was certainly subjected to my share of online hate.

Mayor Brian Bowman, on one consequence of his support for Pride

lifted the Pride flag, I certainly was subjected to my share of online hate," he said.

"It really underscores the environment that many members of our LGBTQ community face on a daily basis."



ROADS TWO-CAR COLLISION DIVERTS TRAFFIC

A first responder chats with the driver of a vehicle after a two-car crash Wednesday morning on St. Matthews Avenue near Milt Stegall Drive. The collision saw traffic diverted through the former Target parking lot while the mess was cleaned up. No one was seriously injured.

ELISHA DACEY/METRO

Agency unimpressed by province's budget

CRIME

Dine-and-dash pair left daughter behind

Police in western Manitoba have arrested a couple after they ran out on a restaurant bill but left their child behind.

Brandon police say they were called to a restaurant on Tuesday night after a husband and wife ran up a tab of \$135 and then bolted.

They left behind their 10-year-old daughter.

Police say they caught up to the intoxicated suspects a short distance away.

Police say the pair was taken to the Brandon Correctional Centre, and the child was taken into the care of Child and Family Services.

A 29-year-old man and his 33-year-old wife are facing fraud charges. THE CANADIAN PRESS

ECONOMY

Poor outlook, deficit unlikely to help credit rating: Firm

A credit-rating agency is suggesting the Manitoba government's recent budget may not help the province's credit rating because it offers a weak fiscal outlook.

The May 31 budget forecasts a deficit of \$911 million, down slightly from the previ-

ous year, and forecasts a return to balanced books could take eight years.

Moody's Investors Service says that plan is "lengthy" and points out that provincial debt is now more than 150 per cent of the province's annual revenues.

Moody's is not adjusting Manitoba's credit rating, but says the budget is credit-negative — which means there are concerns about the government's finances.

On the plus side, Moody's says the provincial economy is performing above the na-



The province's debt burden is expected to rise.

Adam Hardi

tional average and government revenues will benefit from low unemployment, a low Canadian dollar and a strong manufacturing sector.

Moody's downgraded the province's credit rating last July to double-A2, citing the

previous NDP government's struggles in containing deficits.

In a news release, Moody's said Manitoba continues to face challenges.

"To help finance the higher deficits, the province's debt burden is expected to rise faster than previously forecasted," Adam Hardi, Moody's assistant vice-president said in the release.

"However, the expectation of continued solid economic growth should help ensure revenues grow at a solid pace."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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PORTAGE PLACE

Winnipeggers tops at pedalling

... and walking, too

Statistics show we outpace fellow Canadians when it comes to rates of cycling and travelling by foot.



Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

Winnipeg may not be known for being walkable or bikeable, but data suggests maybe it should be.

Statistics Canada commuter surveys from 2011 show 7.6 per cent of Winnipeggers walk or bike to work as their primary mode of transportation — and Bike Winnipeg will tell you the number has increased since then.

That's better than the national average of seven per cent, and also beats out similar-sized cities in Western Canada including Calgary (6.3 per cent), Edmonton (6 per cent), Regina (6.1 per cent) and Saskatoon (7.5 per cent).

That data was shared by the International Institute for Sustainable Development's (IISD) Peg newsletter Wednesday, while members of the Green Action Centre hosted pop-up events to thank active-transportation commuters during the annual commuter challenge.

Charles Thrift, an IISD project manager, said although Winnipeggers are doing well making use of the disjointed trail network, "there's a long



Statistics Canada figures shows Winnipeg residents are likelier to head to work on human power than others. ISTOCK

way to go" for the city to make it easier for people to commute on their own power.

The city has a plan to do so — the 20-year, \$334-million active transportation plan was

adopted last summer — and will start with \$6 million worth of studies and work slated for sidewalks and paths this year.

That larger plan won a national award from the Canadian

Institute of Planners this week for being a "well-researched and presented all season active transportation plan."

Thrift said parts of it, such as filling in gaps existing between

bike lanes, will increase Winnipeg's active-commuter rates even further.

"As you start seeing more active transportation infrastructure being built in some neighbourhoods, we may start seeing those rates go up, especially along (major) corridors," he said.

The PEG data presentation breaks down active-commute rates by community, and indicates downtown is king with 21.4 per cent of its inhabitants walking or biking as a primary mode of transportation.

River Heights is second best with 12.8 per cent, St. Boniface rounds out the top three at 7.4 per cent, and St. James-Assiniboia is close behind with 7.1 per cent of residents commuting by foot or bike.

Thrift said looking at Winnipeg's active transportation path maps show clearly why those areas would be in the lead, and said areas like Fort Garry (5.7 per cent) will likely improve as they gain better connections to the network.

Christy Allen, who passed out coffee and cinnamon buns to cycling and walking commuters Wednesday with the Green Action Centre, said the organization has noticed active transportation "really picking

+ BIKES IN NEWS

Safety and design on deck

A city committee has ordered a report on options for improving cycling safety, potentially including mandatory helmets.

Bike Winnipeg opposes the idea. On Tuesday, Bike Winnipeg will launch the city's third annual Bike Week in the plaza at city hall.

On Wednesday, the group will host a viewing of a webinar on the economic impacts of street design decisions at the EcoCentre.

And next Thursday, Coun. Janice Lukes will host an informal lunch-hour discussion on transportation topics at The Forks tower atrium. METRO

up" as a trend in the city.

"A lot of people coming by were saying they aren't just doing it for the commuter challenge this week, but they say they're doing it all year," she said. "It's something that seems like it's becoming less of a challenge and more just a way of life."

BY THE NUMBERS

7%

National average rate for walking and cycling as primary method of getting to work

7.6%

Winnipeg average rate for walking and cycling as primary method of getting to work

21.4%

Average rate for walking and cycling as primary method of getting to work in Downtown Winnipeg

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FORT MCMURRAY WILDFIRE

Wanted: A home for exotic evacuees



This bearded dragon in Edmonton is looking for a home. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

Lizards, bearded dragons and snakes, oh my.

The Edmonton Humane Society is currently home to 65 animals rescued from Fort McMurray. Most of their owners are AWOL and most of the pets are exotic.

Society chief executive Miranda Jordan-Smith said while her staff has been able to obtain

contact information for some owners, using the addresses where the animals were found, they currently have no way of reaching the owners of about two thirds of the new animals.

So, if you're still hoping for a joyful reunion with your ball python, red-bellied newt or tarantula, she'd love if you could get in touch.

"We don't normally see this volume, so it is pretty unusual to have this sheer number of exotic animals," Jordan-Smith said.

While the Society has found food and shelter for all its new guests, Jordan-Smith said it's been an adjustment for a team accustomed to cats and rabbits.

"It's definitely a change in menu," she said. "Some of the snakes require frozen mice, crickets need to be fed to certain reptiles, and the veterinary rounds have changed as well."

When the human residents of Fort McMurray evacuated, the Alberta SPCA went around to rescue as many pets as possible.



The dramatic scene after a sinkhole formed on Rideau Street in Ottawa on Wednesday. JUSTIN TANG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ottawa street swallowed up

SINKHOLE

City reels as road falls away, piece by piece

Joe Lofaro & Lucy Scholey
Metro | Ottawa

Andre Da Costa knew something was wrong when the power went out in his building Wednesday morning.

But it wasn't until he rushed outside that he realized a cavernous sinkhole had engulfed a huge chunk of Rideau Street, creating confusion and chaos in the heart of downtown Ottawa.

"The police and firefighters are telling us to get back, get back, get back," Da Costa said.

Piece by piece, the road fell away until the sinkhole spanned nearly the entire width of Rideau Street, just down the road from the Parliament buildings.

A van parked on the road

fell into the hole, a moment captured on a bystander's phone and shared on social media. Da Costa saw it happen before his eyes.

"There's some smoke or some dust or water spray coming up out of the sinkhole and then the roadway starts giving away," he said. "There was a minivan parked on that loading zone and then that started to tip and then fell into the sinkhole."

The city is now left searching for answers. Officials at a news conference Wednesday afternoon could not immediately say if crews excavating the last 50-odd metres of the light-rail line had anything to do with the street's collapse.

Crews were working in the tunnel at the time, but the Rideau Transit Group says no one reported any injuries and no one is missing. The Rideau Centre was evacuated as a precaution and the area around the sinkhole was cordoned off.

There is still no timeline on when the hole will be fixed.

ADVERTISING

Racy sexual health campaign launched



Jeremy Simes
For Metro | Calgary

Alberta Health Services' new advertisements may be a bit ballsy for the older crowd but, when it comes to millennials, they hit the nail on the head, said a local marketing expert.

On Friday, AHS launched its STI awareness campaign, sporting phrases like, "Go balls deep without losing sleep," "Keep your vajayjay yay-yay," and "Give her the big O, not the oh-no!" across social media platforms.

The campaign is a result of statistics that showed an 80 per cent spike in gonorrhea rates and a doubling of syphilis infections across Alberta, largely blamed on social media hookup sites, said the Alberta government.

Mohammed El Hazzouri, assistant professor of marketing at Mount Royal University, said the ads would likely draw blanks with older folks but score points with the young crowd.

The ads, created by AHS's communications team, cost \$250,000, and shy away from typical fear-based tactics, he said.

Build a New Home in Charleswood

RidgeWood West is Charleswood's newest development, bringing a diversity of home options to the southwest edge of Winnipeg. From estate homes overlooking pristine wetlands and secluded lots backing onto aspen and oak forests, to premium homes with easy access to the Harte Trail, RidgeWood West promises a living experience all homeowners can enjoy. Act fast and secure your building site in the community you know and love.

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Sanders soldiers on

U.S. ELECTION

He's been clobbered in campaign, but he won't quit

America's self-styled political revolutionary remains on the battlefield after losing the war to Hillary Clinton.

Bernie Sanders isn't ready to go.

He's lost a majority of states in the Democratic primaries, the popular vote, elected delegates and unelected superdelegates, and has been clobbered in the biggest remaining states.

But an electric energy rippled through his youthful crowd as he declared his intention to march on — at least to the final primary next week in Washington, D.C., then perhaps to next month's Democratic convention.

Sanders is said to be feeling combative, is bitter about how he's been treated by the Democratic party and is brushing

aside staffers who are insisting on the need for party unity, according to a story published by the web outlet Politico.

"The struggle continues," the senator told a California crowd.

"I am pretty good at arithmetic. I know that the fight in front of us is a very, very steep fight. But we will continue to fight for every vote and every delegate."

The sound of the crowd hinted at Democratic disunity.

While his supporters cheered his reference to stopping Republican Donald Trump, they cheered even longer and louder when he described his campaign as something greater than defeating Trump — it's about transforming the country with a platform of more social programs and less money in politics.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Bernie Sanders
AFP/GETTY IMAGES

SCIENCE

Ancient 'hobbits' older than believed

Human evolution is usually portrayed as a neat linear progression, from hunched primate to tall, proud man. In 2003, a discovery on the Indonesian island of Flores scrambled that narrative.

In a cave called Liang Bua, researchers found the nearly complete skeleton of a tiny human who lived between 50,000 and 100,000 years ago, and who stood just over a metre high. They declared it a new species, officially called *Homo floresiensis*, but quickly nicknamed the "hobbit" hominin. But almost everything about these extinct people was a mystery. Where did they come from, and how did they get there?

On Wednesday, researchers writing in the journal *Nature* announced they had discovered much older, even tinier human fossils on Flores.

The 700,000-year-old remains are helping scientists understand the origins of one of the most enigmatic members of our genus.

"These guys survived there for 650,000 years or so, which is quite amazing," said Bence Viola, a professor of paleo-anthropology at the University of Toronto, who was not



A reconstruction model of *Homo floresiensis* at Sangiran Museum and the Early Man Site.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

involved in the research.

The research team found the new fossils in 2014 at a site called Mata Menge, which sits more than 70 kilometres away from the Liang Bua cave.

In a layer of sediment that dates to 700,000 years ago and also contained stone tools and

fossils of several animals, the researchers discovered a jaw fragment and teeth belonging to at least three individuals. Amazingly, the jaw was 20 per cent smaller than the smallest jaw from Liang Bua.

The research team was careful to say that until

more specimens are discovered, they can't say for sure if these even tinier people are the direct ancestors of *Homo floresiensis*. But the discovery helps resolve some of the arguments about the hobbits' origins.

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Feds open study of housing market

REAL ESTATE

Examination focuses on affordability, foreign buyers

The federal government is conducting an in-depth examination of the country's real estate markets as it decides whether more changes are needed to rein in escalating prices or curb the impact of foreign investment on housing affordability, Finance Minister Bill Morneau said Wednesday.

"What we're doing right now is we're making sure that we have a deep dive into the information to ensure that any considerations we have for change are evidence-based," Morneau said after giving a speech at an economic conference in Toronto.



Bill Morneau THE CANADIAN PRESS

"Our ongoing goal is to ensure that we understand the market in all of its complexity, that we consider all the evidence to determine what measures are necessary, on an ongoing basis, to ensure that Canadians have the ability to buy homes."

The government has faced growing calls from researchers, bankers and other housing sector observers in recent days to address soaring prices and mounting household debt, particularly

in Toronto and Vancouver.

Morneau did not specify Wednesday what sort of changes the government was considering.

The government is looking at a number of factors affecting the real estate industry, such as population growth, the labour market and supply, Morneau said.

"We're going to remain focused on this, using real evidence to think about what are the measures that we can do in order to ensure that this market stays healthy for Canadians," Morneau said.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is scheduled to address The Economist's Canada Summit later Wednesday.

The summit is aimed at identifying the key trends that are reshaping Canada's role in the global economy while delving into ways the country can become more competitive.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

TECHNOLOGY

Herders hope app will save reindeer

Finnish reindeer herders in the Arctic have painted Rudolph's antlers in fluorescent colours, hung reflectors around their necks and even used movable traffic signs, but none of the efforts have helped reduce the annual 4,000 reindeer road deaths.

Now they have decided on a new tactic: an interactive reindeer warning app where drivers can tap their mobile phone screens to register any reindeer

they see and get warnings if they are approaching an area where reindeer have been spotted.

In a pilot project, drivers of heavy transport vehicles are being given 1,000 free handsets, which have been deactivated for any other use than the reindeer warning system. If it proves successful, the app will be available for download on smartphones later this year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Reindeer walk across the road in Suomussalmi, Finland. CONTRIBUTED/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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CHANTAL HÉBERT ON THE TROUBLE WITH PLEBISCITES



The option of a national referendum is a can of worms that any moderately sane government would think twice before opening.

Canada's current referendum law was conceived in haste, in the heat of a losing constitutional battle almost 25 years ago. It was not designed to bring plebiscites into the electoral culture of the country. So many of its key sections are obsolete that it would have to be rewritten before Canada could have another nationwide referendum.

The opposition Conservatives want such a vote to be a pre-condition to the adoption of the new voting system the Liberals promised to put in place in time for the 2019 election.

If one had to sum up the government's mantra, it would be a referendum on electoral reform if necessary but not necessarily a referendum — with a heavy emphasis on the latter part of the proposition.

But this is one issue that finds Prime Minister Justin Trudeau offside with public opinion. An Ipsos poll conducted for Global News last month pegged support for a referendum on electoral reform at 73 per cent.

And yet, if it came to that,

the debate over a referendum could turn out to be more time-consuming and potentially more divisive than the electoral reform discussion itself.

The existing federal referendum law was passed in the spring of 1992 after barely a month of deliberations in the House of Commons. These days it can take that long just to get a motion to set up a committee adopted.

Although it was Brian Mulroney's Tory government that presented the bill, part of the impetus for it came from the Liberal opposition.

In an interview with the Star this week, Trudeau maintained that a referendum is too blunt an instrument to do justice to complex reforms. There was a time when his party believed otherwise.

As leader of the opposition, Jean Chrétien championed the notion of putting a constitutional package infinitely more complex than any electoral plan could ever be to a national referendum.

The 1992 law was drafted for the specific purpose of consulting Canadians on constitutional changes and it says

so in black-and-white. There are contrary views within the legal community as to whether it could be used in a context other than a vote on a proposed amendment to the Constitution.

On this, both sides are really arguing about the number of angels that could dance on the head of a rusty pin.

In 1992, Canada's political system still tapped the rich vein of corporate Canada for money. In the Charlottetown referendum campaign, the big banks and the pharmaceutical industry gave big bucks to the Yes camp. Such contributions have since been banned from the federal system.

The referendum law is irremediably out-of-synch with 2016 political financing practices.

And then 25 years ago, there was no debate as to what constituted a "clear" referendum mandate. Fifty per cent plus one was the accepted figure. That changed after the 1995 Quebec referendum and a Supreme Court reference that suggested the threshold should be higher. Today, there is no consensus among the

federal parties as to what constitutes a "clear" majority. The Liberals, under Trudeau, have consistently maintained that it is more than 50 per cent plus one.

The law is also silent on the regional make-up — if any — of a pan-Canadian majority. After a yes vote to the 1992 Charlottetown accord, the amending formula of the Constitution would have kicked in. Thus, even if an overall majority of Canadians had supported the accord, the national total would have had to minimally include a majority of voters in at least seven provinces including Quebec or Ontario for most of its dispositions to be implemented. It is unlikely that a premier would have signed off on a constitutional deal in the face of the opposition of a majority in his or her province.

In a referendum on electoral reform the Constitution would offer little firm guidance. Parliament would have to decide whether the sought-after majority should include majorities in every region of the country. Quebec for one would likely insist on the latter. Other provinces might too.

The Conservatives believe the first-past-the-post system serves their party best. In the face of overwhelming popular pressure for a referendum, they figure Trudeau would abandon his bid to change the voting system rather than put it to a pan-Canadian vote. They may well be right. The option of a national referendum is a can of worms that any moderately sane government would think twice before opening.

Hillary's achievement deserves respect



Rosemary Westwood
Metro | Toronto

Women have grown tired of "the first female."

Of course we celebrate our sisters' success, but it's a title so dated it feels sexist in itself, a stubborn hangover from the '50s.

We continue to use it out of necessity. Because even in a world where we can now do so much, sexism clings like that gropey, persistent perv at the bar.

As of Tuesday, Hillary Clinton is the first female presidential nominee of a major U.S. political party. Let me repeat: A woman could soon be president of the United States of America. That is not just monumental, and historic, it's the motherlode of "first female" headlines.

As John Cassidy in The New Yorker put it: "This was still a huge night for her, for the Democratic Party, and for the country."

Clinton herself clearly felt it — the elated atmosphere of that moment, taking the stage, happy and relaxed. The victory "belongs to generations of women and men who struggled and sacrificed and made this moment possible," she said. The one person she wishes she could share it with, she told The New York Times, is her mother.

The moment, let's note again, is that a group comprising one half the population finally has a shot at the seat of power in America, if not the world.

And yet, some Bernie Sanders supporters — and the entire right wing of the political world — appear unimpressed. Republicans are too partisan to pull support from even a raging racist, nevermind celebrate one woman's achievement on behalf of millions of others. But Sanders' supporters? What's their excuse?

Those impassioned by Sanders' socialist revolution raged and rankled at the Associated Press' decision to declare Clinton the primary winner. The sexists attacked women journalists for reporting the news, calling NPR's Tamara Keith a "dumb c--t," Andrea Bernstein of WNYC a "whore" and HuffPost's Mollie Reilly "shrill."

Even the petty, reluctant GirlGuessWithHer hashtag, used by a lot of female Sanders supporters, suggests a group seemingly immune to history-in-the-making for women's equality.

Sanders supporters don't have to like Clinton. They don't have to vote for her. But is it really too much to ask for a modicum of respect for this once-unbelievable achievement? This one isn't about you. No really. This isn't about you. It's about all women.

Donald Trump, the presumptive racist, has welcomed dismayed Sanders supporters with "open arms." That raises a question really worth asking. If you can't recognize an unparalleled juncture for HALF the U.S. population, are you really that progressive? Or do you, after all, belong with Trump?

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Prolonging adolescence, Gen-X style

NEW NOVEL

Tension in Modern Lovers comes from author's past

Sue Carter
For Metro Canada



If there's something wonderfully familiar about Emma Straub's new novel *Modern Lovers*, thank Jane Austen. Her book may be a contemporary Gen-X story set in a gentrifying Brooklyn neighbourhood, but there's a tenderness and charm to Straub's characters that wouldn't feel out of place among Austen's social comedies.

"Jane Austen is someone who I think about when I'm writing, specifically love stories," says Straub. "I do think about

her a lot in terms of structure and pace."

Initially, Straub, who grew up in Brooklyn, planned to write a book focusing on Harry, a quiet "good kid" who initially causes his parents no grief but stealthily gains his independence.

The story grew to include more details about his mother, Elizabeth, a formerly rebellious musician who now sells real estate, and his father, Andrew, a directionless trust-fund baby who becomes involved with a cultish yoga studio.

Then Straub found herself writing more about their relationships with friends and neighbours, and so the story

expanded to include Zoe and Jane, who own a local bistro, and their daughter, Ruby, whom Harry begins sleeping with.

Much of the tension in *Modern Lovers* originates from an era about 25 years in the past, back to when Elizabeth, Andrew and Zoe performed in a college rock band called Kitty's Mustache.

The fourth member, Lydia, went on to become famous, in part thanks to a Riot Grrrl-ish anthemic song written by Elizabeth. Although Lydia died from a drug overdose at age 27 — the same age that Amy Winehouse, Jim Morrison and Janis Joplin passed away — her

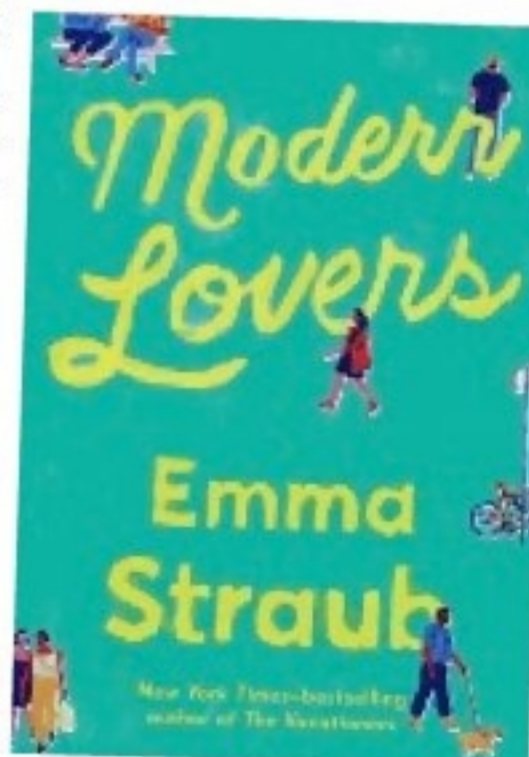
cultish legacy and a personal secret continues to haunt the group.

"I didn't want to model her too closely on anyone but in my head Lydia is a female Kurt Cobain," says Straub, who claims to have no musical abilities, though she worked for the indie band The Magnetic Fields for a decade selling merch.

In many ways, Straub's hormone-fuelled teenage characters have as much control over their emotional lives as the 40-something adults who are all struggling with issues of identity, security and creative fulfillment.

Does how you relate to your loved ones change as you become entrenched in middle age? What happens when the cool touchstones of your youth become relegated to foggy memories and retro nights?

"That generation is also the first generation to reject outright adulthood in a certain



the case for my characters."

Despite whatever turmoil Straub's characters find themselves in, it's clear that in her world, family rules. While writing her 2014 best-selling novel *The Vacationers*, she was pregnant with her first child, and is now touring *Modern Lovers* (including a date at Toronto's Appel Salon on June 13), with her four-month-old son.

"I think about my family all day, every day, and that certainly has affected the way I think about my characters and their lives and their families," says Straub. "Nothing drives me more than my relationships with my family. And so it seems natural that would be the case with my books, too."

Sue Carter is the editor at Quill & Quire magazine.



"I didn't want to model her too closely on anyone but in my head Lydia is a female Kurt Cobain"

Author Emma Straub

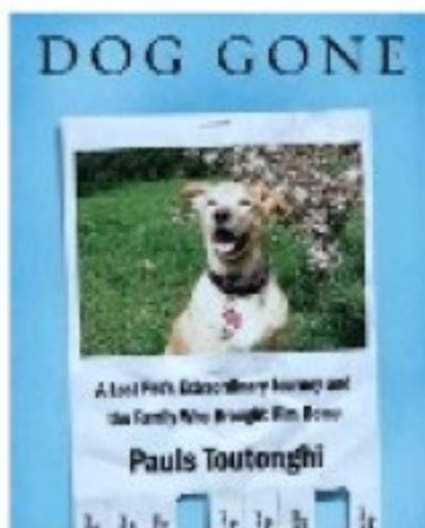
5 BOOKS FOR ANIMAL LOVERS TO WALLOW IN

The birds and the bees, in addition to dogs, goats and pigs, plus sundry other creatures are the leading characters in these latest releases. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



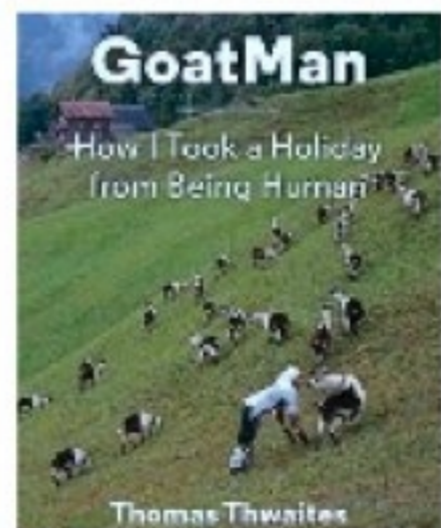
1 Social media

Esther the Wonder Pig: Changing the World One Heart at a Time, Steve Jenkins and Derek Walter with Caprice Crane. This is the memoir of Ontario's own Esther the Wonder Pig, who was adopted in 2012 by Jenkins and Walter as a "micro" pig but soon revealed herself to be a full-size commercial sow who today weighs in at 300 kilos. This amiable book details the early days — failed attempts to houstrain Esther (the sheer volume of pee rules this out) and the dawning realization that they had to figure out alternative strategies for maintaining a porker as a pet. Esther's celebrity breakthrough came when Jenkins and Walter gave her a social media presence. Now she has more than 380,000 likes on Facebook and 185,000 followers on Instagram.



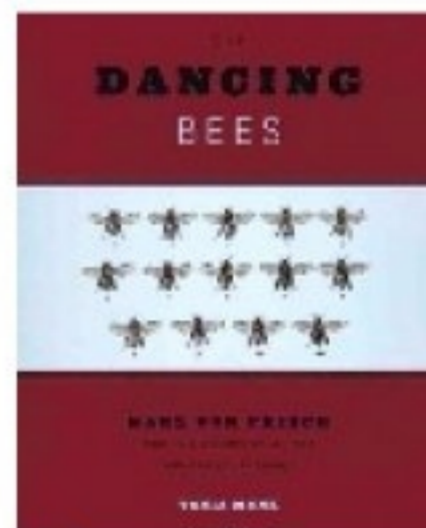
2 Travel

Dog Gone: A Lost Pet's Extraordinary Journey and the Family Who Brought Him Home, Pauls Toutonghi. How often have we read the story of a missing dog or cat that has returned to its family many miles away weeks or months later? This is that story, but this family memoir is more than that, thanks to the storytelling gifts of Pauls Toutonghi, the brother-in-law of Field Marshall, whose golden lab, Gonker, went missing in October, 1998, on the Appalachian Trail.



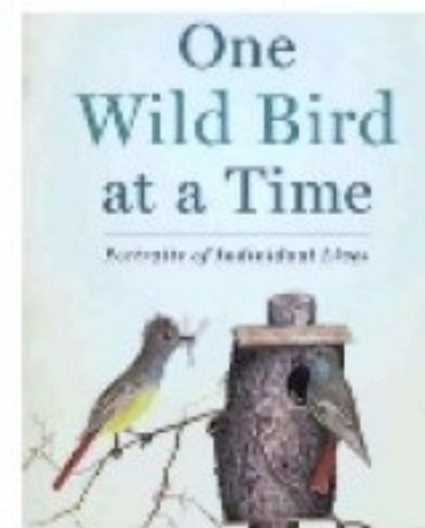
3 Curiosity

GoatMan: How I Took a Holiday from Being Human, Thomas Thwaites. Thomas Thwaites's last venture into the outer reaches of first-person journalism was *The Toaster Project* in which he figured out how to make a toaster from scratch. In *GoatMan*, he sets out how to become a goat from scratch. Well, actually, he started out attempting to be an elephant but switched species because of the rarity of pachyderms in his neck of the wood, i.e. England.



4 Science

The Dancing Bees: Karl von Frisch and the Discovery of the Honeybee Language, Tania Munz. This is an unexpectedly interesting book with a dual purpose. It tells the story of Jewish scientist Karl von Frisch (1886-1982) who the Nazis prevented from working with European bees and then compelled him to do so when a collapse of the bee population threatened the pollination of crops and thus the food supply.



5 Memoir

One Wild Bird at a Time: Portraits of Individual Birds, Bernd Heinrich. Heinrich lives in a cabin with large windows in all directions in a clearing in the Maine woods, with lots of berries, seeds and insects — which accounts for his relationships with hawks, vireos, chickadees and grosbeaks, among others. They have become his long-time neighbours, annual visitors or casual drop-ins. Indeed, some have actually homesteaded in his cabin walls.



JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Success of Private Eyes relies on quick, fun banter

THE SHOW: Private Eyes, Season 1, Episode 1 (Global)
THE MOMENT: The cutlets

Ex-hockey star Matt Shade (Jason Priestly) meets private investigator Angie Everett (Cindy Sampson) in her messy office. She's just been undercover as a fitness trainer, and wears a tank top that plays up her enormous bosom.

"Gotta say, that trainer disguise is a winner," Shade says.

"Gotta say, you hockey players are predictable — at any age," Angie shoots back. She catches him still eyeing her rack.

"Put your hands out," she says. She whips silicon falsies (aka cutlets) out of her bra and slaps them into his palms.

"Predictable again," he says. "I had that kid in the palm of my hand until you showed up," she chides him.

He smacks the cutlets together. "Oh, is that what you call these?" he snarks.

Full disclosure, a producer of this show is a friend of mine, so I'll tell you what I asked her: Have



Jason Priestly and Cindy Sampson. CONTRIBUTED

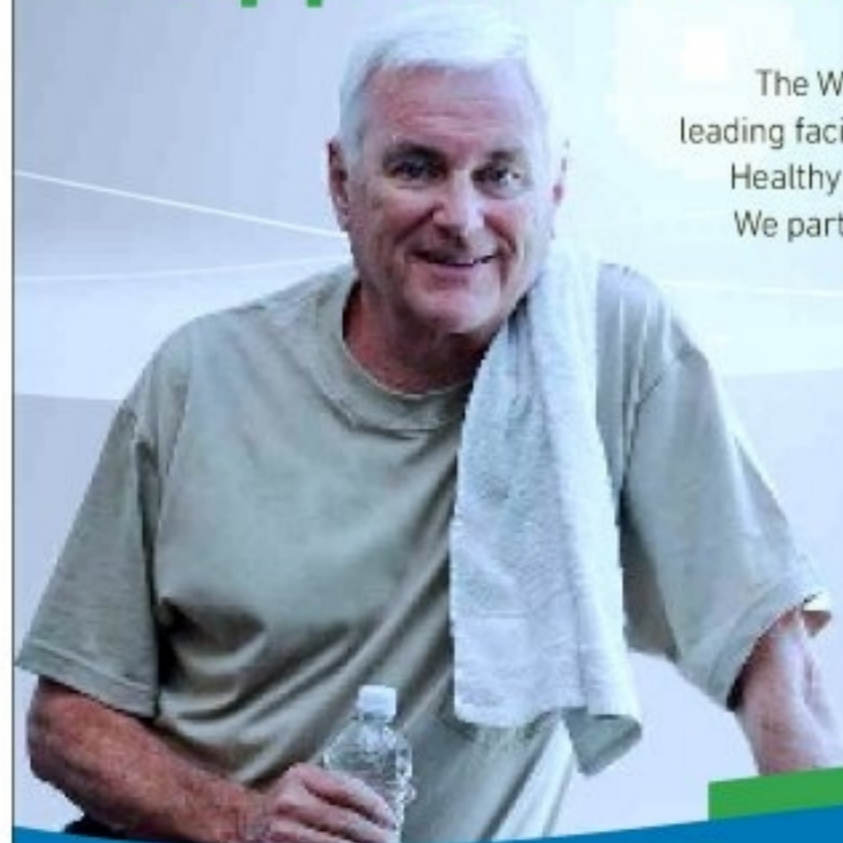
TV directors figured out a trick to make Toronto look fantastic, or has the city actually become smashing?

Between this show and Sensitive Skin, with its beauty shots from and of Toronto Island, the Big Smoke is displaying enough swoony, glittery angles to give Vancouver a run for its production dollars. Private Eyes makes the Gardiner Expressway look sexy, and that is saying some-

thing. Obviously, as the episodes roll on, Angie will teach Shade the P.I. ropes, and his ex-pro status will get her through posh doors. But cases-shmases. This show will live or die on its leads' rat-a-tat repartee.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

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Make the love last in your garden

FLOWERS

From hellebores to yarrow, here's what to plant

Mark Cullen
For Torstar News Service

With a little planning when it comes to planting certain flowers, gardeners can have blooms from spring to October.

Everyone loves to see colourful blossoms in the garden. But in admiring their beauty, we forget why flowers bloom in the first place: to attract pollinators.

Most of the activity in your garden, associated with the web of nature, hinges on sex and reproduction. Keep that in mind this summer when you're out at night and hear crickets chirping, toads croaking and myriad other sounds of love.

So why not make the love last? You can do it with a succession of blooming plants lighting up every corner of your garden, patio or balcony from spring to late fall.

This is planting season and there's no better time to plan your garden for a symphony of



The key to having flowers from spring through to the fall is planning ahead and choosing carefully. MARKCULLEN.COM

colour. I am here to help map it all out:

Late spring (June)

My favourite late-spring flowering plants include woody shrubs such as forsythia, lilacs, magnolias, flowering cherries, crabapples and the native serviceberry (which can grow 10

metres). Perennial flowering groundcovers include lily of the valley, sweet woodruff, lamium and periwinkle.

Longer-blooming perennials include bergenia, which grows about 30 centimetres and features light pink or purple/red flower clusters.

Honey bees forage here frequently. Also, bleeding heart (pink/red), columbine (a magnet for hummingbirds) and peonies are wonderful for cutting and fragrance.

Early summer

Nature knows most insect activity in the garden picks up in late June, July and early August and as

a result she has planned things nicely: this is the most intense flowering period in the garden.

Perennials that flower most reliably, for the longest period of time and attract the greatest number of pollinators, include:

- **Astilbe:** A fabulous plant that tolerates some shade and grows in sunny spots when mulched generously (it doesn't like to dry out). Cut it for use indoors and leave some standing to attract honey bees and other pollinators. Astilbe will bloom for up to six weeks in red, pink or white.

- **Campanula:** Varieties are

available from dwarf 20-centimetre bloomers ("Blue Chips") to 60-centimetre plants featuring a long stem of silver-blue flowers ("Summertime Blues"). This is a reliable perennial that comes back for years.

• Coneflower (echinacea):

This is one of my favourite Canadian native plants. I have about 50 of them in my garden, but I only grow the original purple coneflower. As my associate Sonia Day has pointed out, the hybrids too often pop out after a season or two.

- **Coral bells:** The Sheridan

Nurseries catalogue lists no less than 28 varieties of coral bells. All of them bloom early to mid-summer for several weeks at a time. They are remarkably versatile, colourful and worth owning. Look over the selection and choose according to your likes.

• Cranesbill (hardy geranium):

The REAL geranium: perennial. If you have only one plant in your garden let it be "Rozanne," the perennial plant of the year in 2008. You have to have it. Rozanne blooms from May to September. Yes!

Add these to your list, too: shasta daisy, coreopsis (showy, but not very reliable from year to year), daylilies, hosta (I grow them for the flower as much as anything), delphiniums, false sunflowers and hollyhock (a biennial).

Fall

September and October feature their own major players. Plant Sedum spectabile for two months of colour and honey-bee activity.

Rudbeckia provides reliable yellow colour from late August to when frost arrives (no wonder gas stations love to use this plant, it is so low maintenance), Joe Pye weed (I love this plant for butterflies and honey bees), butterfly bush (No. 1 for butterflies in my books!), yarrow and giant flowering rose mallow will knock your eyes out.

Mark Cullen is an expert gardener, author and broadcaster. Get his free monthly newsletter at markcullen.com. Look for his new bestseller, *The New Canadian Garden*, published by Dundurn Press.



Nature knows most insect activity in the garden picks up in late June, July and early August.

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Cristiano Ronaldo's two first-half goals helped Portugal to a 7-0 demolition of Estonia in the last warmup before the Euros

Extreme Cup makeover



VIEW FROM THE 300S
Andrew 'Hustler' Paterson

The Stanley Cup will be in the building tonight and the champagne on ice. The Pittsburgh Penguins are one more dominating performance away from dispatching the San Jose Sharks in the final and bringing the championship back to Steeltown for the first time since 2009.

A year ago, the Pens had been golfing since April, winning only one game in the post-season after sneaking into the playoffs as the eighth seed in the East. There were questions about the core and many speculated that the Pens' championship window had closed. That sure seems like ancient history right now.

Pittsburgh has blazed though the post-season this spring, blinding opponents with their speed, relentless checking and lightning fast transition game. Picking a Conn Smythe Trophy winner will be a real challenge as there have been so many important contributors through the playoffs. The decision will likely come down to Sidney Crosby, Phil Kessel or rookie goalie Matt Murray,

but if voters could consider a coach or GM for the award, this would be the year.

Earlier this season the Penguins looked nothing like a contender. Mike Johnston was fired and replaced by Mike Sullivan behind the bench in early December and the Penguins responded by losing four straight under their new coach. But by March, Sullivan had the Penguins dominating opponents and looking like the team we will see tonight on the verge of the Cup.

GM Jim Rutherford also deserves a ton of credit. In addition to realizing the need for a mid-season coaching change,

CONN SMYTHE FAVOURITE
Kessel leads the Penguins in scoring (21 points) and has put up numbers consistently through a series where scoring has proved difficult.

Rutherford aggressively made over the team via trades, no small feat in today's NHL. The Carl Hagelin, Nick Bonino and Kessel HBK line were all acquired through trades since July of last year and have been so good these playoffs, Shawn Michaels became culturally relevant again and Primanti Bros. can't make HBK sandwiches fast enough to meet the demand.

One year ago, Rutherford was dealing with the bitter disappointment of an underwhelming season by Penguins standards and Sullivan was preparing to coach in the AHL. Crosby



All the Penguins' recent moves, including the trade for Phil Kessel to supplement Sidney Crosby's offence, are looking like strokes of genius right now. JASON BEHNKEN/GETTY IMAGES

was yesterday's news, Kessel was the root of all evil in Toronto and Matt Murray was merely a young AHL goalie, albeit with a bright future.

Tonight one of those players may very well win the Conn Smythe.

Winning the Stanley Cup is arguably the toughest task

in pro sports and the Pittsburgh Penguins are a win away from returning to the top of the mountain. What a difference a year makes.

IN BRIEF

Sharapova banned 2 years

Maria Sharapova was suspended Wednesday for two years for failing a drug test, labelled "the sole author of her own misfortune" because she hid regular pre-match use of a newly banned substance from anti-doping authorities and members of her own entourage.

The tennis star said she would appeal what she called "an unfairly harsh" punishment.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blue Jays break out bats to avoid sweep by Tigers

Josh Donaldson had three hits, including a three-run homer and a triple, and R.A. Dickey won consecutive starts for the first time since last summer, helping the Toronto Blue Jays beat the Detroit Tigers 7-2 Wednesday to avoid a three-game sweep.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Love lost for Cavaliers

Slowed by a concussion suffered in Game 2, Cleveland Cavaliers forward Kevin Love sat out Game 3 of the NBA Finals on Wednesday night.

Love took part in the team's morning shootaround but didn't dress for the game, as Cleveland tried to cut into Golden State's 2-0 lead in the series.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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RECIPE Sweet Potato and Kale Frittata



PHOTO: MAYA VISNIEI

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

You can't beat the appeal of eggs for dinner and but we gave this hearty dish a nutritional one-two punch thanks to the help of kale and sweet potato.

Ready in
Prep time: 20 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes

- Ingredients**
- 1 Tbsp butter
 - 1 yellow onion, chopped
 - 1 pound frozen chopped kale
 - 3 cloves garlic, chopped
 - 2 cups boiled diced sweet potato (about 1 large potato)
 - 6 eggs
 - 2 Tbsp milk
 - 1 tsp fresh, chopped parsley

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400 F. In an ovenproof skillet, melt butter over medium heat. Add onions and cook until soft, about 5 minutes. Add garlic and kale and cook until garlic fragrant and kale wilted.

2. Add potatoes and soften, about 3 to 5 minutes.

3. Meanwhile, whisk eggs and milk. Pour egg mixture over potatoes and kale, and cook on stovetop another 3 minutes. Sprinkle with parsley.

4. Transfer skillet to oven and bake about 6 to 8 minutes or until eggs are set.

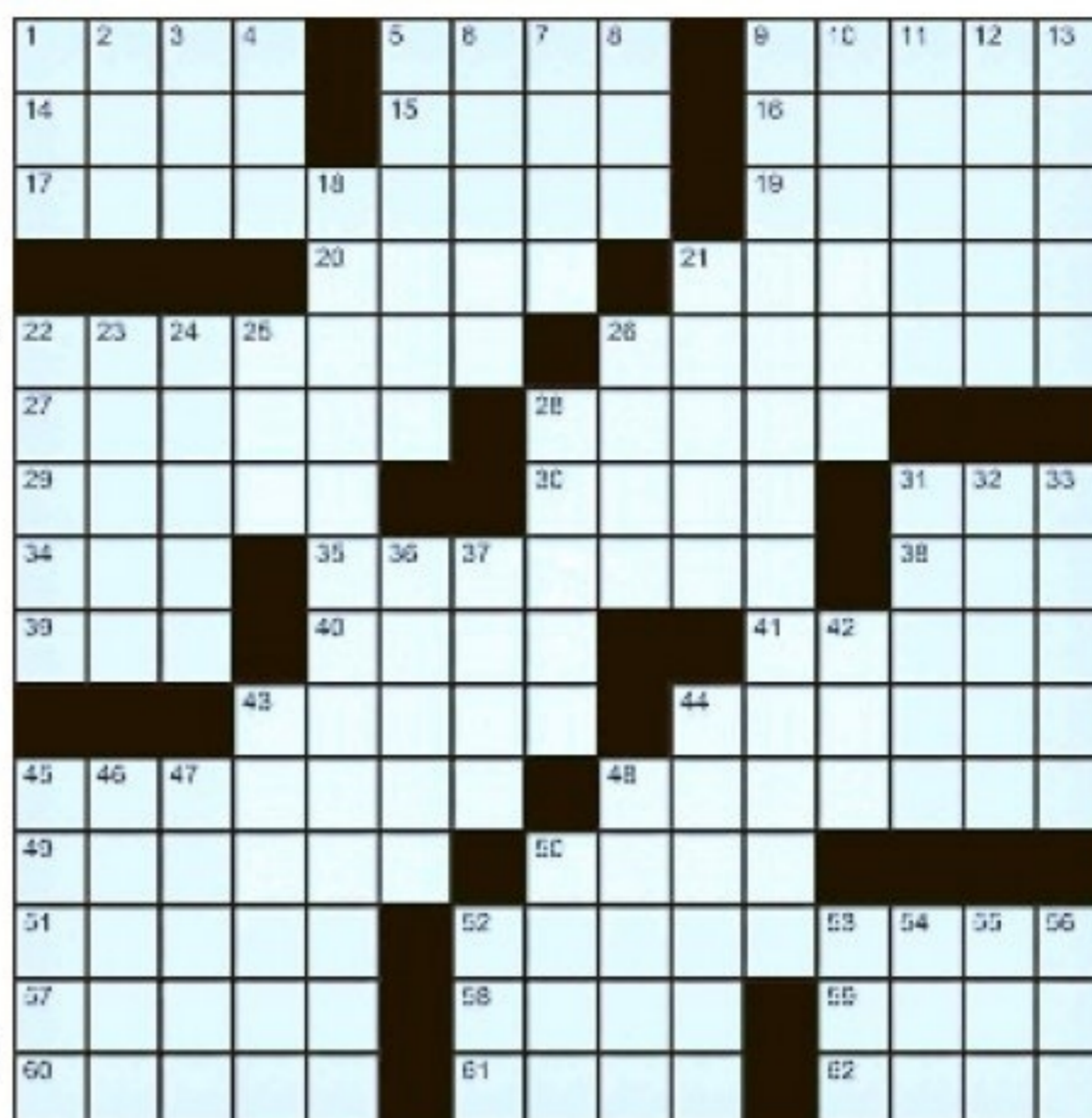
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BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

- '500' car race
- "Last Comic Standing" laugh-getter
- Athenian law-maker
- Grimace
- Port city of Algeria
- 1985 movie for Canadian actress Kate Nelligan, co-starring John Malkovich
- Home's curb appeal area: 2 wds.
- TNT-using result!
- Bun
- English band, _ Chiefs
- Around-the-house comfy loose dresses
- Old bag-pipe instrument of France
- Except if...
- Mr. Gingrich's
- Swiss chocolates brand
- Pro's foe
- Sovereign, e.g.
- Grind _ halt
- North _ River (Body of water for the southern Quebec zoo town of Granby)
- Grazing land
- Entries
- Receptive
- Baseball great Mr. Ryan
- Type of citizenship [pl.]
- Declining
- "Don Juan _" (1994)
- Lamentations
- Disinclined



- Secular
- _ whale
- Historic military attraction in Kingston, Ontario: 2 wds.
- Emily Carr's prop
- Automatic
- Be open-wide
- Eat ener-

- getically
- Mr. Redding
- Fitness facilities

DOWN

- Global currency org.
- Hide Hair link
- Simon & Gar-

- funkel
- Japan currency
- Gleeful
- Verbal tests
- Mr. Malden
- Finish
- Canadian rock singer who has starred on Broadway and began his career

- as Skid Row's lead singer: 2 wds.
- Namesakes of Kukla and Fran's co-star
- Last but not what?
- Start
- Saltpetre
- Blue Rodeo

- song: 2 wds.
- Kourtney, Kim and Khloe's show [acronym]
- _ -faced
- _ Station, commuters hub in downtown Toronto
- Arm bones
- Pre- _ student
- YMCA's 'M'
- Some flat-breads
- Writer wife of composer Irving Berlin
- Intended
- Hungry feelings
- Speedily
- "Canadian Idol" Season 5 winner Brian
- Sash
- What the sky becomes as the day turns to night
- Privileged classes
- Judi Dench, and others
- Mineral water brand
- High IQ society
- PQ = _ Quebecois
- Plunder
- To and _
- _ timer
- Yea not
- Circling stat.
- "For sure."

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
Don't get carried away with disputes about money, inheritances and shared property. Will an argument really change anything? Stay calm, and rely on logic instead of a hot temper.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Difficulties with spouses, partners and close friends are likely today, because Mercury is in your sign, opposing fiery Mars. (Yikes!) This means people are ready to fight!

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You are mentally restless today; however, you can use this energy for research or to seek out answers to problems. Focus your search in one area.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Difficulties with a friend or perhaps a member of a group might arise today. Basically, it's a gun fight at the O.K. Corral. Who has the biggest weapon?

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Difficulties with authority figures are likely today, which is why this is a poor day to ask for approval or permission for anything. Just keep a low profile and don't go looking for trouble.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Avoid controversial subjects like politics, religion and racial issues today, because they will quickly deteriorate into a nasty argument. Mostly, this is because people want to fight.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Disputes about inheritances and shared property are likely today. This is a poor day for these kinds of discussions; therefore, wait for a better day.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Difficulties with partners and close friends are likely today because fiery Mars is in your sign opposing Mercury, which is directly opposite you. Chill out.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Squabbles with co-workers or people related to your job are likely today. However, it takes two to make a fight, right? Therefore, refuse to engage. Time to go fishing.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Be patient with kids today, because they are just as likely to quarrel as you are. Knowing this, direct people's attention to things you have in common.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Avoid family disputes today, because it's just not worth it. Family is gold. Every time you have family dissension, everyone loses.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
This is a mildly accident-prone day, because you might be emotionally upset about something. Just keep calm and carry on. Truer words were never spoken. An agitated mind will lead to accidents.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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